



# Colorado Crop Progress

NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

USDA NASS Colorado Field Office  
P.O. Box 150969, Lakewood, CO 80215  
Phone 1-800-392-3202 · 1-800-643-6885  
e-mail: [nass-co@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-co@nass.usda.gov)

To access USDA-NASS reports <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>

Released: September 23, 2013

Vol. 50 No. 28

**Agricultural Summary:** High levels of precipitation have put field activities on hold in various portions of Colorado. Flood damage remains a concern in areas impacted by locally heavy precipitation, particularly along the Front Range. As a consequence of soil saturation following rains, some producers may replant winter wheat, according to reporters. Crops approaching maturity were subjected to lower than normal temperatures last week, effectively slowing the pace of maturity. On average, farmers were allowed 4.2 days in the field for operations.

## TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	7	22	64	7
Last Week	10	21	54	15
Last Year	64	29	7	0

## SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	23	34	42	1
Last Week	27	32	37	4
Last Year	72	25	3	0

**Small Grains:** Seeding of winter wheat reached 35 percent complete last week, up from 22 percent previously. Nine percent of the crop had emerged by week's end.

**Row Crops:** Ninety-three percent of the corn crop reached the denting stage last week while 31 percent has reached maturity. Last week, the corn harvest gained 2 percentage points, ending the week with 4 percent complete. Of the corn crop intended for silage, 77 percent of harvest was complete. Late season development of sorghum slowed in pace last week, ending with 83 percent turning color and 12 percent mature. Minimal gains were made on the harvest with 2 percent complete by week's end. Last week, harvest of sunflowers began with 5 percent harvested by week's end. Forty-five percent of the dry onion crop has been harvested thus far, behind last year and the average. Sugarbeet harvest activities also trailed the average with 6 percent completed last week. Thirty-one percent of the potatoes in the San Luis valley have been harvested, behind 51 percent last year and the average of 38 percent. Harvest activities for potatoes elsewhere were nearing the final stages, at 93 percent complete.

An additional 11 percent of the dry bean crop was cut last week, with 63 percent cut by week's end. Thirty-nine percent of the dry bean crop was harvested, up from 30 percent the previous week.

## SMALL GRAIN AND ROW CROP CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending September 22, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn					
This Week	11	14	27	38	10
Last Year	46	19	16	15	4
Sorghum					
This Week	18	22	36	24	0
Last Year	51	20	17	12	0

**Pasture and Range:** Pasture and range conditions ratings improved slightly last week, ending with 43 percent rated very poor to poor compared with 46 percent the previous week. On average, 38 percent is normally rated very poor to poor. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> cuttings of alfalfa were 79 and 15 percent complete, respectively.

## PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending September 22, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2013	17	26	30	25	2
Prev. Year - 2012	58	26	14	2	0
5-Year Avg.	18	20	33	24	5

**Livestock:** Livestock condition ratings showed a decline from last week with 55 percent currently rated good to excellent, down from 59 percent previously. Death losses remained at average levels for cattle and sheep. Overall, stored feed supplies remained rated as average for this time of year.

# COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

Development Ratings for Week ending September 22, 2013

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
<b>Alfalfa</b>				
3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting	79	76	94	78
4 <sup>th</sup> Cutting	15	6	44	19
<b>Corn</b>				
Dent	93	83	99	92
Mature	31	20	76	46
Harvested	4	2	17	7
<b>Corn Silage</b>				
Harvested	77	54	85	67
<b>Dry Beans</b>				
Cut	63	52	82	64
Harvested	39	30	43	35
<b>Dry Onions</b>				
Harvested	45	33	74	61
<b>Fall Potatoes</b>				
Harvested				
San Luis Valley	31	26	51	38
All Other	93	73	94	68
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Turning Color	83	80	98	93
Mature	12	11	32	40
Harvested	2	1	8	5
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
Harvested	6	2	12	8
<b>Sunflowers</b>				
Harvested	5	-	2	6
<b>Winter Wheat</b>				
Planted	35	22	38	50
Emerged	9	2	4	13

- Represents zero.

N/A Not available.

## COLORADO CONDITION RATINGS 1/

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b>Alfalfa</b>	6	10	32	48	4
<b>Dry Beans</b>	5	12	37	43	3
<b>Dry Onions</b>	0	1	23	69	7
<b>Fall Potatoes</b>					
San Luis Valley	0	3	20	62	15
<b>Livestock</b>	2	8	35	53	2
<b>Sugarbeets</b>	0	4	23	64	9
<b>Sunflowers</b>	18	28	30	22	2

1/ Crop condition ratings pertain to emerged plants early in the growing season through plants remaining to be harvested late in the season.